

BIBLE ADVENTURE 9:
SALVATION - How Do I Become Saved?
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Romans 10:9-10 "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 11:25 I [Jesus] am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

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Discovery Treasures:

John 3:16 is one of the most well-known salvation scriptures around! And if you want to live forever...literally, forever...in Heaven with God you have to obtain salvation, otherwise known as being saved.

And the best news of all is that God has made it so easy for all of us to be able to do this. I like to look at John 3:16 like this: BELIEVE, RECEIVE and ACHIEVE. That is BELIEVE in Jesus and confess your belief and your sins with your mouth, RECEIVE him into your heart and receive his forgiveness of your sins, and you will ACHIEVE salvation! How cool is that?

Did you know that you have both a physical heart and a spiritual heart? Your physical heart keeps you alive here on earth. Your spiritual heart plays a big part in becoming saved and giving you eternal life. Your physical heart is much like your spiritual heart in the fact that you need it to continue beating to keep on living. Let's break it down to make it a bit easier to understand.

If your physical heart stops beating for a certain amount of time, then you physically die. And if the veins and arteries that send the blood to and from your physical heart get blocked, punctured, or burst, your physical heart will stop beating and you won't be [physically] alive any longer. In time, even if you take excellent care of your physical heart, it will eventually stop beating and your physical body will die.

LIKE your physical heart, if your spiritual heart stops beating you will "die," except for you won't just eventually die physically, but will also die spiritually. If you stop believing in Jesus, your spiritual heart will become hardened. Jesus serves as every vein and artery to

your spiritual heart. If you (sin) do anything to block, puncture, or burst your “spiritual veins” then Jesus can't flow through your spiritual heart, and that is just as devastating as your physical heart not getting any blood flow.

But here's some really great news. . .UNLIKE your physical heart, if you keep Jesus in your spiritual heart it will NEVER stop beating, and you will NEVER die spiritually! When your time comes to stop living here on earth, you will pass from this earthly life to a full blown eternal life. . .and that my friends, is why it is so important to obtain salvation. If you are saved, you are promised eternal life forever with God in Heaven and on His new earth, and it is going to be even more fantastic than you can imagine! (Revelation 21:3-5)

Did you know that salvation brings hope? When times get tough. . .and they will. . .(John 16:33 says, *In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I [Jesus] have overcome the world.*) you will still be able to have hope, knowing that God in Heaven loves you, Jesus is preparing a place (so very special) for you, and one day God will send Jesus back to earth to take you with him back to Heaven. Find this amazing confirmation in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 which says, *For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

Mind-blowing as it is, salvation offers more hope than you can imagine, and opens the doors - the flood gates of Heaven - and steers us to ask God to honor His word in the Bible. For example, what happens when we lose someone we love? We get very sad, we feel like there's no hope, and this is known as grief. But God's got grief taken care of by offering hope! This hope is found in 1 Thessalonians 4:13. This scripture tells us that when we are grieving over a loss, we don't have to be like those who are not saved. . .we can grieve with hope! How comforting and hopeful is this?

Have you ever taken the time to ask yourself if you really do believe that Jesus is the Son of God? If you answered “yes,” then you're well on your way to becoming saved! And if not, it's never too late to start believing!

But believing is only a part of the process. There's two important things you must do to activate salvation and achieve being saved. You need to follow the two simple directions found in our memory verse.

*****Romans 10:9-10*****

1. You need to CONFESS outloud with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and in addition you need to CONFESS your sins so that you will be forgiven of them (1 John 1:8-10)
2. You need to BELIEVE in your [spiritual] heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. (Mark 16:1-8)

**Once you do these two things, you have obtained salvation, you are saved!
HOW COOL IS THAT?**

Once you've obtained salvation, God asks us to share salvation with others. Mark 16:15 says, *He [Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."* The Gospel being the message of salvation. Wouldn't it be cool if all of your family and friends got to go to Heaven with you? They can! All you need to do is share with them how you got saved (that's called your testimony), and ask them if they want to be with you and Jesus in Heaven too. If they answer "yes," then you can lead them in prayer: have them repeat after you. . .

. . .Dear God, I believe Jesus is Lord. I believe that Jesus is the Son of God. I believe Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead and is alive today so that I can have eternal life. I want to be with my friend in Heaven too, so I ask You to come into my heart, forgive me for my sins, teach me Your ways, and help me share the gospel and my testimony with others with excitement and joy. In Jesus's name I pray. Amen.

Welcome to the Christian family! Welcome to looking forward to your new, eternal life in Heaven with Jesus!

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SALVATION ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES:

Memorize: Romans 10:9-10, John 3:16, and John 11:25

FRIENDS & FAMILY ACTIVITY:

*If you and your family already know Jesus and have salvation, get together and plan a time when you could have some people over for a meal, who might not believe as of yet. Share your testimony(ies), share the Gospel with them, and ASK them (dont' force them) if they would like to pray a prayer of salvation so that they can be in Heaven with you. Remember, God wants us all to come to him by our own personal choice and free will.

-If they reject you, do not take it personal, put them on your prayer list and continue to pray for their salvation. Jesus was rejected many times, He is our example. Remember that God wants people to come to Jesus on their own accord. Just like you, God does not want people to come to Him who are forced to come. He seeks genuine love, not forced or fake love, just like you.

*If you and your family are hearing and learning about salvation for the first time, or you're just not sure whether it's for you just yet, here's something you can do. Gather around and get comfortable. Share your thoughts on salvation with each other. Then practice leading each other to Jesus using the PRAYER below. You may be surprised to find out that your spiritual heart will "perk up" and today just might be the day you seal your eternity in Heaven!

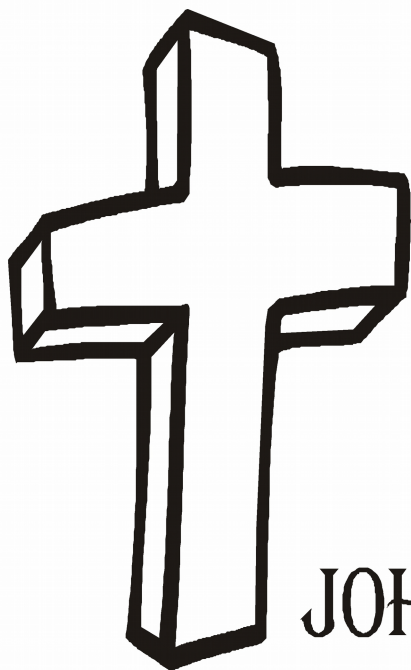
*Grab your markers, crayons, or color pencils...there's a great page to color! It's John 3:16! Be sure to add in some of your own drawings to enhance how you see God giving Jesus to the world on the cross.

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TIME TO TALK TO GOD:

As a family, or with your friends, join hands and say the following prayer out loud to God. He will listen...I guarantee!

PRAYER: Dear God, I believe in my heart that Jesus is Lord. I believe in my heart that Jesus died and God the Father raised Him from the dead. I believe that you, Jesus, shed your blood for me, and I ask that you forgive me of my sins. Thank you for salvation, for saving me, and for allowing me to be a part of your Heavenly Kingdom. May I draw closer to you each day. May I have the passion to learn your Word, hear your voice, follow your ways, and share the excitement of my testimony and the gospel with others. In Jesus's name, Amen.



JOHN 3:16